

FACT SHEET

Economic Effects: Research Quality Standards and National Data

Scollo and colleagues used four criteria for identifying high-quality studies of economic impacts of smokefree indoor air laws.^{1, 2, 3}

1. Use of objective data (e.g., tax receipts or employment statistics),
2. Inclusion of all data points after the law was implemented and data for several years before,
3. Use of regression or other statistical methods that control for trends and random fluctuation in the data, and
4. Controls for overall economic trends.

No peer-reviewed, published, independent study showed a negative economic impact from the implementation of smokefree indoor air laws. Studies asserting a negative economic impact often had the following characteristics:^{1, 2, 3}

- Data were based on subjective impressions or estimates of anticipated change rather than on objective, verified, or audited data.
- Data did not account for an adequate period before and after the law went into effect to establish underlying trends.
- Funding came from the tobacco industry or organizations allied with the tobacco industry.
- The studies were not published in scientific journals.

Additionally, the 2006 Surgeon General's report stated, "Evidence from peer-reviewed studies shows that smokefree policies and regulations do not have an adverse economic impact on the hospitality industry."⁴

Smokefree Indoor Air Laws in Wyoming*

In 2009, WYSAC compared cities in Wyoming with established comprehensive smokefree indoor air laws to similar cities in Wyoming without comprehensive smokefree indoor air laws. The analyses examined the effect of the comprehensive smokefree indoor air laws on attitudes toward tobacco use and smoking behaviors among youth and adults.⁵

Matched Towns⁵

City with Comprehensive Smokefree Indoor Air Law (County)	Comparison City (County)
Laramie (Albany)	Jackson (Teton)
Cheyenne (Laramie)	Casper (Natrona)
Evanston (Uinta)	Douglas (Converse)

Effects of Wyoming's Laws on Smoking

WYSAC's analysis did not show any statistically significant differences between Wyoming cities with comprehensive smokefree indoor air laws and comparison cities for adult smoking prevalence, consumption, or cessation. However, WYSAC's analysis revealed greater reductions in smoking prevalence for youth in cities with comprehensive smokefree indoor air laws compared to youth in cities without comprehensive smokefree indoor air laws.⁵

Youth Smoking Prevalence Changes Associated with Smokefree Indoor Air Laws⁵

Used Cigarettes...	Smokefree Law Status	Percent Change
In their lifetime	Law	-25%
	No law	-11%
During the 30 days prior to being surveyed	Law	-19%
	No law	-7%

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* For details on the smokefree indoor air laws in Wyoming, please see WYSAC Fact Sheet 2013-04, *the Existence of and Support for Smokefree Laws in Wyoming*.

FACT SHEET cont.

Social Effects of Wyoming's Smokefree Indoor Air Laws

In 2009, Wyoming's comprehensive smokefree indoor air laws had no statistically significant effect on measured **adult attitudes** regarding smoking. However, data revealed that comprehensive smokefree indoor air laws were associated with changes in four indicators of **youth attitudes** toward smoking.⁵

- The attitudes of youth in both sets of communities became more anti-smoking over the comparable time periods.⁵
- The changes in smoking-related attitudes of youth in cities *with* comprehensive smokefree indoor air laws were significantly greater than the changes in the smoking-related attitudes of youth in cities *without* comprehensive smokefree indoor air laws.⁵

Youth Attitude Changes Associated with Smokefree Laws⁵

Youth Attitude toward Smoking	Smokefree Indoor Air Law Status	Percent Change
It is a little bit wrong or not wrong at all for someone their age to use cigarettes	Law	-25%
	No law	-7%
Adults in the neighborhood would think it is a little bit wrong or not wrong at all for kids to smoke cigarettes	Law	-20%
	No law	-4%
Have one or more friends who have used cigarettes in the past year	Law	-20%
	No law	-8%
Reported it is sort of easy or very easy to get cigarettes	Law	-8%
	No law	+1%

WYSAC Fact Sheet: Effects of Smokefree Indoor Air Laws

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Wyoming Survey & Analysis Center
University of Wyoming • Department 3925
1000 East University Avenue • Laramie WY 82071
wysac@uwyo.edu • www.wysac.uwyo.edu
(307) 766-2189 • Fax: (307) 766-2759

¹ Scollo, M., & Lal, A. (2005). *Summary of studies assessing the impact of smoking restrictions on the hospitality industry: Includes studies produced to July 2005*. Retrieved June 7, 2012, from <http://www.vctc.org>

² Scollo, M., & Lal, A. (2008). *Summary of studies assessing the economic impact of smokefree policies in the hospitality industry: Includes studies produced to 31 January 2008*. Melbourne, Australia: Vic Centre for Tobacco Control, the Cancer Council Victoria.

³ Scollo, M., Lal, A., Hyland, A., & Glantz, S. (2003). Review of the quality of studies on the economic effects of smokefree policies on the hospitality industry. *Tobacco Control*, 12, 13–20. Retrieved January 16, 2008, from <http://tobaccocontrol.bmj.com>

⁴ U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. (2006). *The health consequences of involuntary exposure to tobacco smoke: A report of the Surgeon General*. Atlanta, GA: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Coordinating Center for Health Promotion, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Office on Smoking and Health.

⁵ WYSAC. (2009). *An expanded analysis of the impact of smokefree ordinances in Wyoming: A preliminary evaluation of the economic, health, and social impacts*, by N. M. Nelson, E. Canen, L. L. Feldman, M. Leonardson, & R. Jenniges. (WYSAC Technical Report No. CHES-904). Laramie, WY: Wyoming Survey & Analysis Center, University of Wyoming.